#### TRADES-UNIONS.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN PARIS.

[FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE PARIS, November 2.

The Trades Unions International Congress has been brought to a close. Mr. Broadburst, of whom I have seen a good deal, is not sanguine as to immediate results in the form of International combination, but thinks that good will arise out of the exchange of ideas which has taken place during the week between the delegates of England, France, Spain and Italy. I was an interested spectator of nearly all the meetings. The object the delegates had in view was not in full harmony with the doctrines of those free-trade economists who are "for letting natural law, quite irrespective of human convenience, have its way everywhere and in everything. They wanted to take means for protecting operatives who have attained a good position in the labor market and risen to a civilized Istandard of comfort, against those capitalists who would beat them down by importing shoals of ipoverty-stricken creatures from States wherd the birth-rate is and has long been every high. In short, the superior kind of working people in England and France want to defend themselves by means of international trades-unionism against the hordes of Rhenish Germany, Italy, and the Belgian cities. Popu lation swarms in the boot-shaped peninsula that runs into the Mediterranean, and along the Rhine from the Lake of Constance to the German Ocean. The poorer classes there have the same effect upon the labor markets of France and England that the Chinese have upon those of the Pacific States of America. Immigration from the Grand Duchy of Baden keeps the printers' tariff from rising higher than it was in 1848. The boot-makers, owing to the inrush of Belgians, do not earn more than their fathers earned fifty years ago. The fact was established at the Congress that in their trade fourteen hours' work per diem brings in a wage of 3f, 50c.

While salaries are kept down, house rent and the price of food and drink rise rapidly. The more foreigners flock in the better it will be for the owners of house property, and for the butcher and the baker. There are 220,000 foreigners in Paris. Of these not more than forty thousand are in independent circumstances. The rest have come to look for a livelihood. Whenever there is a strike, they come pouring into France. Italians are the curse of the Marseillais and the Lyonnais. There are now eapitalists who find it cheaper to send leather and cloth into parts of Germany where wages are very low, get them made there iuto boots, shoes, coats, cloaks, etc., and brought back fit to be worn, than to have them done by workers established here. The growing hatred toward Germans and Italians in this country arises from the manner in which they press upon the labor market. The Legislature is too cumbrons a machinery to be brought easily into action, too inelastic for its interference not to be dreaded, and too much in the hands of the upper bourgeois class for it to give relieve exactly where the shoe pinches. Revolution is a cure that is nearly as bad as the disease. And so it is agreed to give a trial, so far as it is possible, to international trades unions. But, unless in England, this possibility is very

restricted. It is hampered in France by the Dufaure law, which regards even "an attempt to prepare to organize international meetings" as criminal. In 1877 a French printer was prosecuted, fined and imprisoned for going to an international congress. Some friends of his were similarly punished for attempting to call in Paris a trades union convention in which several States would be represented. believe the congress which has been holding meetings in a café in the Palais Royal was not interfered with, because Mr. Broadhurst, one of the English delegates, is an M. P., and had with him : letter of introduction from Sir Charles Dilke to M. Clemenceau. These facts were brought out in The London News, to the correspondent of which Mr. Broadhurst was warmly recommended by Mr. John Morley. At the house of the journalist in question the English delegates this morning lunched in the company of M. Clemenceau. They were delighted with the eloquent Deputy for Montmartre, who was very gay, brilliant and full of anecdotes, and was extremely sorry that trades unionism such as exists in England has not so far been acclimated in France. He conversed for nearly an hour after breagfast with Mr. Broadhurst and Mr. Burnett, who represents a great Newcastle trades union and is a member of the committee which Parliament now consults when legislating on working-class affairs.

In Italy there is no law analogous to that which bears the name of the late M. Dufaure. Nor is there any special enactment against trades unions, But it is taken for granted that all Internationalists are of the rick-burning school, and they are prosecuted

under the common law. In Spain the legislation against workingmen's as sociations for the purpose of making war against capitalists is very severe. But it is spasmodically applied. When a Conservative government comes into office, or an advanced government has been long enough in power to become Tory in its feeling operatives who unite against their employers to extract higher wages from them are hunted down like

wild beasts. The Italians sent but one delegate, Andrea Costa He is by trade a house painter, and though quite young is Deputy for Ravenna in the Italian Parliament. For several years he worked in Swiss hotels. He then was prosecuted as an Internationalist and sent to prison for eighteen months. ¿To these facts he owes his seat in the Parliament at Rome. Costa speaks Italian, Spanish and French-the latter with a strong accent but with fluency and idiomatic and grammatical vigor and correctness. He is an able speaker, but the most india-rubber-looking human being 'that I ever laid eyes upon. His figure takes the oddest curves imaginable whether sitting down or standing up, and one would say that there is not such a thing as a bone in his spine. He did not use the formula "Citoyen" or "Delegate," but "Compagnon," the English equivalent of which would be "associate." There was nothing whatever incendiary in his speeches, and he did not appear to sympathize with the resentment expressed by the French at the capitalists flooding the labor market with poor wretches who accept foreign wages. Why should he? Italy is a swarming hive. The more Italians that leave it, the better it will be for those who remain. He drew some very black pictures of the condition of the poor of Naples and of some of the mountainous regions of his country. They are too ignorant to learn about trades unions, or to understand their advantages But there are municipalities where there is a high level of working-class intelligence and a wonderful capacity for union in pursuit of a common object.

There were two Spanish delegates, Señors Pamia and Felgueroso. The former came from Barcelona and is the editor of a democratic paper there. If there is any truth in physiognomy, he is a man who means what he says, who thinks much and deeply, and who knows what he wants and where he is going. The outline of face scarcely differs from that of Castelar. But there is more intensity of shought and feeling in the expression. He some times spoke in French and sometimes in Spanish, Signor Coda translating for him. His colleagu was a singularly interesting person. In the Middle Ages I dare say that he would have been an apostle and saint. Enthusiasm beamed in his eye and gave a peculiar cast to his visage, which would have been plain if not lighted up by a fervid soul. Seflor Felgueroso represented 20,000 workers of steam power. I had some private talk with him about Spain. He was like poor General Skobfor greasing all creaking wheels with

of her younger children, and she helped them to steal away the birthright from the elder ones when the latter refused to meet them in a brotherly spirit. What were called "the barbarians" would invade and overrun the civilized if attempts were made to keep them barbarous.

This doctrine was not to the taste of the French, who are in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred disiples of Malthus. Delegate Allemane spoke with purning flerceness against the capitalists who had inundated the working quarters of the French owns with Germans, Belgians and Italians, He is

towns with Germans, Belgians and Lalians. He is a typographer and a man of narrow views, who sees well what he does see and expresses all that he thinks and feels with rugged power and almost seorching heat. He and all his French brethren repeatedly declared that they had no dislike to the foreigner as such. A foreign workman was held as a brother when he entered a trades union, while a French capitalist was regarded as an enemy until he proved himself just and humane.

The English delegates at in a row at a long table. There were eight of them. I dare say they were all sagacious men in their respective trades. Three of them were very rough diamonds. For instance, Mr. Bailey, a Laneashire man, was formerly a pagilist, and still looks what he has been. I never saw a man with a more pronounced buil-dog face. He spoke with a harsh North Country twang. But he was so clear, so pungent, so much to the point, that it was a treat to listen to him. What struck me, and others who were with me, was the natural genius of the English for Parliamentary discussion. They listened well, admitted in their patient hearing of much fustian the right of every man to have an opinion, were never out of order, and when they had said what they wanted to say, made way directly for others. rectly for others.

Mr. Broadhurst's style was the most ambitious. I

b Mr. Broadhurst's style was the most ambitious. I dare say it owes the grain of sententiousness that was in it to the three years which he has passed in the House of Commons. The member for Stoke is a good man and a true, and a son of Merry England. He is short, burly, and in all respects compact. The brain part of the head is admirably balanced, and it and the courageous twinkling eyes, sharply cut and mobile nostrils, irregularly outlined nose, and strong chin, remind one of the portraits of Drake, the navigator. There is tremendous combativeness in the little man, and this quality is kept in gear by a cheery genial temper and a beautifully warm heart. Broadhurst likes good men, but he has not much sympathy with mournful saints, albeit he is a religious Methodist. He is passionately fond of bull-dogs, used to be a great boxer, takes, but not in excess, whiskey punch, is an inveterate smoker, and confesses himself a similer in all things in which is is lawful to sin. He associates a good deal with philanthropists and tectotalers. But they can't get him to enter the Blue-Ribbon brigade. "What's the use?" he cries. "Whiskey punch helps me to digest my dinner, and I (he pronounces this pronoun hl) "never get drunk." A man less capable of envy, hatred, malice, or uncharitableness, does not breathe. It was refreshing to hear him describe the sacrifices which his trades union (the masons) made during a great strike. They not only subscribed but after they had rinsed out their pockets they pleaged their credit, and though beaten brough the bankruptcy court. And they were ready to strike again and to fight harder than ever, although the bankruptcy court. And they were ready to strike again and to fight harder than ever, although the bankruptcy court. And they were ready to strike again and to fight harder than ever, although the bankruptcy court. And they were ready to strike again and to fight harder than ever, although the bankruptcy court. And they were ready to strike again and to fight harder than ever although Mr. Broadhurst s style was lare say it owes the grain of sententionsness that was in it to the three years which he has passed in the House of Commons. The member for Stoke is a

#### GHOSTLY SHIPS AT SEA.

AN OLD SAILOR'S TALES OF PHANTOM CHAFT-STORIES OF THE COAST.

"Do I believe in phantom ships? Yes, I do." The old sailor was emphatic, so the reporter merely "There ain't as much of that sort of shipping affoat as

there used to be," continued the old man. "I rather guess steam vessels have sorter scared 'em off the ocean. But still there's a good many more than you'd think, and more than I like to see going about."

"Did you ever see any ?"
"Yes, Once, when I was second mate of a bark bound from this port to Calcutta, I saw a phantem ship I shall never forget. We were nearing the Cape of Good Hope. The wind was light and the weather was thick. That night when the sun set and the meon rese, the just that hung over the water gave everything a glassry appearance, and our spars and soils as we looked aloft seemed more. Hhe those of some plantom vessel than things you could take hold of. There were no indications of a blow, and we were sendding along with our sky-sails and studdingsatis set. I had the second deg watch, and came on deck to relieve me, the lockout on the to'gallart fo'castle called out, 'Sail ho!' 'Where away P said I. 'Three points on the lee bow,' said he. I looked and there she was, a ship with high bulwarks and a towering stern, of a build like the pictured ships in his tory books. Her sails were like clouds, her masts and spars like streaks of vapor. She came down on us with parvellous rapidity. As she neared us, I stepped to the raff and sang out. 'Ship shoy?' but no answering had came from the deck of the phantom craft and, sailing right against the wind, she passed on, and in three mit

utes was lost to sight." "The Flying Dutchman."

" What is the Palatine light ?" Well! I thought everybody knew what that was. You see in early colonial times Block Island, off the coast of Phode Island, was inhabited by weekers. A ship called the Palatine, from the Palatinate of the Rhine, leade with colonists, was lured on the rocks false lights and then pillaged and burned false lights and then pillaged and burned by the wreckers. Most of the colonists were lost. A few survived, and to this day their descendants, for some of them married the daugniters of the wreckers, are among the mindituats of the island. On a cliff overlooking the seene of the wreck are several mounds called the Palatine graves where some of the bedies that were washed ashore are buried. Now, on the anxiversary of the wreck of the Palatine, the watchers on shore see a ship on the rocks beneath the cliff burning in three columns of fame. I have seen it with these very eyes—hundreds of others have seen it, and, explain it as you will, it is an undoubted fact that the strange uncarfuly lights burn there."

"That is good," said the reporter; " give me another phanton ship."

"That is good," said the reporter; "give me mount phanton ship."

"Well, in August, 1862, a fishing fleet from the Grand Banks was overtaken by a storm and put into St. Mary's Eay for shelter. As is frequently the case in those latindes the storm was accompanied by a thick fog and the fleet of 100 boids was lost. Now when there is a similar storm there, the vessels seeking shelter sail through the midst of a phanton fleet of those hundred fishing boats."

"Did you ever see them?"

"No, but I know people who have.
"You have heard, of course, of the ghostly ship that used to sail, and sometimes sails now, up Narragansett Bay; of Henry Hudson's Half Moon having been seen at anchor under the Palisades!"

## anchor under the Palisades i" "Can't say that I have." "Well people have told me that have seen it."

FIGURES THAT SHOW THE DIMENSIONS, THE MA-TERIAL AND THE COST OF THE PRODUCE EX-

STATISTICS OF A LARGE BUILDING.

Notwithstanding the series of delays in finishing the Produce Exchange Bullding, the following facts encerding the structure are of interest: The foundation is built upon 15,034 piles; there are 109,796 feet of yel ow pine capping timber,17,530 square feet of base stone and 64,732 square feet of building stone. The first pil was driven on July 17, 1881, and the last pile on December 24 following. The building fronts 307 feet on Broad way and Whitehall-st., 159 [feet on Stone-st., 150 feet on Beaver-st., and 300 feet on New-st. The tower at the southeast corner of the building is 48 feet square; height of main building from sidewalk to base of tower, 120 cet; height from sidewalk to top of tower, 225 feet; beight from sidewalk to top of flag-pole, 306 feet-the flag-pole being 90 feet total length. The clock in the ower is-with the exception of that of THE TRIBUNE, which is the same size—the largest to be seen in the city The diameter of the clock dial is 12 feet; length of hands,

6 feet, and length of figures on dial, 20 inches.

The size of the main room of the building is 220 by 145 brotherly love and patient kindness, for taking poor-devil foreigners, who come to tread on the heels of a better sort of operatives, by the hand, and creating homes and refuges where their slender resources might go a long way, and so enable them to resist the offers of the capitalist. This was tried by some friendly unions at Barcelona and with excellent results. The poor-devil emigrant did not want to be the enemy of the workman who was better off. His poverty and not his will drove him into antagonism. Landing in a strange country, forlorn and miserable, he was peculiarly sensible to kindness. The thing was to try if possible and make him an auxiliary. Mother Nature was fond

DEFECTS IN THE SCHOOLS.

HOW THEY MAY BE REMEDIED. QUESTIONS OF HEALTH, OVER-CROWDING

AND EXCESSIVE EXPENDITURE. The article on the needs of the city schools published in The Tribune last Sunday was much discussed during the week by members of the Board of Education, by prominent taxpayers, and especially by the people directly affected by the overcrowded schools. Mayor Edson and William Dowd pointed out serious defects in the system. Commissioner Wood said that salaries were not excessive, and that the cry about poor ventilation was a good deal of a humbug. President Walker showed the helplessness of the Board in regard to transferring teachers. John Reilly favored giving the Board of Education

all it asked for—\$1,431,950. Another instalment of interviews on these and kindred questions has been obtained. President Asten wants more economy. Controller Grant is surprised at some of the salaries paid. Superintendent Jasper insists on the necessity of having more schools. Dr. Bell describes the sanitary condition of the buildings, and Mr. Devoe shows what can be done with \$500,000 in increasing school accommodations this year.

MR. ASTEN BELIEVES IN RETRENCHMENT. Thomas B. Asten, president of the Department of Taxes and Assessments, is a member of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment. A TRIBUNE reporter asked him if the budget of the Board of Education was likely to receive much attention before the final estimate was made.

"Several provisional estimates were hurried through" replied Mr. Asten, "with the understanding that they should be carefully reviewed before final action was taken, and among them was that of the Board of Education. I can assure you that it will not pass next month so hurriedly. I think that half a million dollars is sufficient for new schools, and that three and a half millions are enough for the expenses of the present schools. It takes the unanimous vote of the Board of Estimate to decide upon any budget, and it is my impression that if an attempt is made to restore the estimate for education to its original figures that no appropriation will be made, I think that instead of increasing the salaries of the Board's employes and the professors in the colleges they should be reduced. Mr. Jasper is an able man, but I think his present salary is too high, and the Board is now trying to raise it a thousand dollars. Why should Mr. Davenport be paid \$5,500 by the Board for anditing its accounts when the City Anditor only receives \$3,000.

'Last year I felt that the Board of Estimate right to be enlightened on the school question, and se Mr. Wood was invited to be present. But I am sorry to say with all his years of experience in school matters, he seemed to have only one idea—the benefit to be derived from the Normal College. He drew a graphic picture of a poor widow's daughterwho married well because she was a graduate of the Normal College, and gave other interesting examples of the good accomplished by that institution. On the contrary I think that the real bene fits of the school system in this city are derived from the primary schools and the teachers in those schools should be better paid than they are. There ought to be more new schools, but here is one of the results of increased appropriations by the Board of Estimate. The first thing the Commissioners do is to increase the salaries of a few of the highest officers.

"One of the arguments which we met from the Board of Education is that the books and supplies given to the scholars, the increase in the cost of sites, and the higher rate of hving in this city, are reasons why a much larger relative appropriation should be made than is made in Brooklyn other cities. One day I said Deduct the amount paid for books and supplies, take out the difference in the price of real estate, make allowances for the increased cost of liv-ing here,' and when that was done by one of their members the percentage per scholar was much larger here than in Brooklyn and obsewhere. Lan repeatedly told that in my opposition to the exces-sive demands for money by the Board I am opposed to education. That is not true, but look at the city repeatedly fold that in by one sive demands for money by the Board I am opposed to education. That is not true, but look at the city taxes! And nearly one-seventh of the whole amount asked for from the Board of Apportionment this year is for the schools."

"Do you think that the City College is excessive in the forests one in the city to the schools."

claimer for \$135,000 f annually to \$150,000 dare to be too persistent, fearing that the act may be repealed. One year they demanded the ful amount. We refused, it and the Legislature compelled us to give them the \$150,000.

## CONTROLLER GRANT SURPRISED.

Turning aside for a mement from a large pile of papers which he was signing, Controller Grant said that he would be in favor of restoring all the estimates to the amounts asked for by the several departments if it could be done without increasing too greatly the city taxes. This remark was made in reply to the reporter's question, whether or not Mr. Grant would vote to give the Board of Education \$4,431,950.

"Should the Board receive its \$4,000,000 without restrictions, if only that amount is given, or will you vote to keep the \$500,000 restricted to new sites and buildings?"

"I think the policy pursued by our Board last year was the proper one. Have two items, one for salaries and current expenses, and the other for the increase of school accommodations," "Does the Board of Education pay its employes

excessive salaries ?"

"To tell the truth, I have been so very busy that I not looked into that matter as I should, and as I intend doing very soon,"

The reporter handed the Controller a copy of The City Record in which the names salaries of all the teachers and other employes of the Board were printed. As

and salaries of all the teachers and other employes of the Board were printed. As he looked over the list of employes Mr. Grant drew his pen across several manes and simply remarked "Gracious me!" Going down further in the list he added, "I declare those salaries are excessive," "I don't want to judge of the work or worth of any man not in my department." he continued, "but I must say that those are large salaries."

"The Auditor of the Board receives from two sources \$5,900, suggested the reporter, "What salary is paid to the Auditor of the City ?"

"The last Aulitor, who was here for many years, had \$4,500, but William J. Lyon, the present Auditor, only gets \$3,000."

"Some complaint has been made about the large salaries paid to the City College professors in view of the small number of students graduated from it."
"I don't think it is fair to judge that institution's work by the number of its graduates. It as sists thousands of beys and young men who otherwise would go into business directly from the Grammar Schools. When I was in the Produce Exchange I always found that a boy who had been one or two or more years in that college was far superior in business to one not so favored. The training that they receive there in the partial course which they take is of unquestionable value to them."

## DR. BELL ON SANITARY DEFECTS.

Dr. A. N. Bell, Editor of The Sanitarian, at No. 113 Fulton-st., and a member of the Committee on School Hygiene of the Medico-Legal Society, was asked to give his opinion in regard to the sanitary condition of the schools. "A few years ago," he replied, "I made a thorough

investigation of the sanitary condition of the city schools and I found them to be in a lamentable state in respect to ventilation, light and drainage. The drainage arrangements of many of them were in too filthy a condition to speak of in public. I have seen nothing to make me think that there has been any material improvement, and from what others have told me I believe that there has been no improvement. I have been as a committee member to the Board of Education, to the Board of Health and to the Mayor of the city in times past, and have succeeded in getting plenty of promises, but not a bit of performance. trouble lies just here. You go to the Board of Health with your complaints and your proofs and the Board premises to attend to the matter. But on account of the deference which the different city departments demand from each other, the

its own hands, as it should under the laws which govern its actions, simply makes a recommendation to the Board of Education, and there the whole subject rests. In the meantime the children are being killed by the thousand by the foul state of buildings and rooms in which they must pass so much of each day.

Why should the Board of Health consult the Board of Education at all about such a subject? It is the duty of the Health Board to take measures to preserve the ablic leadith, and they are expected to remove the causes of public disease, whether those causes exist private houses, manufactories, printing offices, causes of public disease, whether those causes exist in private houses, manufactories, printing offices, tenement-houses, streets, stores, or anywhere else. Why, then, should the public schools be exempt from their jurisdiction in sanitary matters, when the sanitary condition of the schools affects so closely the health of such a large portion of the city's populace? It is useless to discuss the question; the bare statement of the proposition ought to be enough for people of ordinary sense.

"Formerly the Board of Education employed a special sanitary inspector of the schools, but the Board came to the conclusion that it could do without such an officer, and the office was abolished. The Board of Health, in my opinion, should employ one or more special inspectors for the schools, and these inspectors should act under special instructions, and should perform specially assigned duties,"

tions, and should perform specially assigned dutie

# OPINION OF A MEDICAL COMMISSIONER.

Dr. W. B. Wallace, of No. 145 East Forty-eighthst., is the only physician in the Board. He was appointed last year. He characterized some parts of the system as "bosh," and said that he should have voted against increasing the salaries of the Normal College professors and tutors if he had been present when the question was discussed. He

Normal College professors and tutors it he had been present when the question was discussed. He added that his ideas concerning the need of having either the Normal or the City College were not those held by some members of the Board.

"In reference to the sanitary condition of the schools," continued Dr. Wallace, "I do not think that there is sufficient reason for the cry that is being raised, but I am sure that there are too many children in some of the schools, We cry out against large tenement-houses and then build barracks in which to educate our children. The Board does not buy sufficient land on which to erect its buildings, and then it makes them too high. There should be more vacant space about the buildings; as now arranged many of the school yards are little more than wells for polluted air. I would prevent the overcrowding by not making the primary schools day-nurseries, where mothers may send their five-year-old children to have them out of the way. It is injurious to the child's health to be shut up in school so many hours at such an age. We are met with the statement—which is false—that the children are better off in school, breathing even the bad air, than they are at home in tenement-houses. They lack that freedom of home which is conducive to health. And then, having eliminated the youngest children, I would have two sessions a day for the primary schools, letting the little children attend only one of them."

#### A VISIT TO ONE OF THE SCHOOLS.

Grammar School No. 70 is in Seventy-fifth-st. between Second and Third aves. It has a grammar department for boys, and a primary department for boys and girls, and is one of the schools about which complaints have been made, both of overcrowding and of poor sanitary condition. On Wednesday afternoon the reporter visited the school, going through the class-rooms with the principals. In the grammar department there were 1,015 boys in attendance. The classes varied in size from fifty-five to sixty-four pupils in the lower grades, and from thirty to fifty in the higher grades.

George White, the principal, said that he had refused admission to about twenty or thirty scholars because his classes were full when they wanted to enter, and he added: "In February I shall have two or three hundred children promoted from the primary department, and what I shall do with them I do not know." Mr. White said that there had been little cause for complaint because of bad ventilation in his department, or of the sanitary condition of the rooms. In all the rooms the windows were down at the top, and being in the upper part of the building there was less cause for impure air than in the primary de-partment. In a few of the rooms, however, the win-dows were nearly closed and the air was decidedly

Board of Health from this school, asked us to porter.

"There are days when the rooms opening on the back yard are so tilled with a stench from the closets that it is almost impossible to remain in them. What do we do? Well, we close the windows and do the best we can. But of course that remedy shuts out our ventilation."

"What has been done about it?"

"A doctor from the Board of Health was here some time ago. He made an examination and went away. I presume that will be the last of it. Sometimes the teachers in my school get careless about ventilating the rooms, but we send around to take the temperature three times a day and that serves as a reminder. There has been little sickness this year due to poor air." year due to poor air."

WHAT CAN BE DONE WITH HALF A MILLION. " Just what can we do with \$500,000 in increasing the school accommodations !" said Frederick W. Devoe. "Here is the work contemplated if we received \$850,000; We asked for \$250,000 for sites. That was to purchase one in the Ninth Ward, two in the Twelfth Ward, one in the Seventeenth Ward, one in the Twenty-second Ward, and two in the Twenty-third Ward. The sum of \$600,000 was asked for new buildings. That was to supply a new primary school building in the Ninth Ward, add to a building and erect a new one in the add to a building and creet a new one in the Twelfth Ward, build a new one in the Seventh Ward, add to one in the Twentieth Ward, erect a new one in the Twenty-second Ward, and two in the Twenty-third Ward. Now, with this money allowed we can buy the site and erect the building as planned in the Ninth Ward; we can add to the buildings in the Twelfth and Twentieth Wards, purchase one site and erect a building in the Seventeenth and also in the Twenty-second and Twenty-third Wards, and buy another site in the Twenty-third Wards, and buy another site in the Twenty-third Ward. That will take care of the Ninth Ward well enough, adding accommodations for four or five hundred children. It won't help much in the Twelfth Ward, morely transferring the school from Parena Hall to the new building; perhaps there will be room for two hundred additional children. In the Seventeenth Ward it will not increase the school accommodation more than for three or four hundred children. In the Twentieth Ward six or seven hundred more children can attend school. There will be no help in the Twentieth Ward six or seven hundred more children can attend school. There will be no help in the Twenty-second Ward, and in the Twenty-third Ward possibly three or four hundred new scholars can be enrolled; making the probable increase 2,000. I have been asked if we can't transfer more than \$500,000 of the \$4,000,000 to new sites and buildings. We must have \$3,334,950, or we can't go on without reducing the salaries; and we must have \$445,000 or we can't open the three new schools next fall. Those figures answer that question.

"The Board needs more money for primary school Twelfth Ward, build a new one in the Seventh

have \$115,000 next fail. Those figures answer that question.

"The Board needs more money for primary school buildings, but I know \$4.000,000 is a big amount of money. The three new schools to be opened this year will need furnishing, and that means a large item, and then new teachers and principals will have to be employed, adding a large amount to the salary item. I tell you I should like to see this salary question arranged on a basis of actual merit. But it isn't possible. I would like to increase the salary of a good many teachers and principals that I know, and would like to see as many more out of schools, on a pension if necessary, anything to rid the system of this load that it is forced to carry. But you see how it is at the Board meetings. The janitors petition us to raise their salaries, the male grammar principals send in a petition asking for an increase of salary, and princary teachers suggest the proper method for increasing their salaries, and then the professors and tutors in the Normal College come up and have to be discussed and so it is all the time."

MR, JASPER WANTS MORE SCHOOLS. Superintendent Jasper was asked by the reporter if the plea for more schools was well founded. He said that there should be at least three sites purchased and new buildings erected as soon as possible in addition to the three now in process of erec-"There are a great many children out of tion. "There are a great many children out of school in the Twelfth, Seventeenth, Nineteenth, Twenty-second and Twenty-third Wards," he said, "and many more are attending corporate and pri-

Board of Health, instead of taking the matter into vate schools who would be in the public schools if the school accommodations were increased. There is pressing need of a new school in Harlem; one should be started now near Eighth-ave., at about Forty-fourth-st., and another near Fifty-ninth-st., on the same avenue. In the Nineteenth Ward two new schools will be opened in September, but that will furnish no relief to the rapidly increasing school population, but will merely serve to relieve the schools that are now overcrowded. The truth is the Board is fully two years behind in supplying school accommodations. It begins to build after there are enough children in a district to fill the school, and by the time the school is opened a new one is needed. This condition of things is no fault of our Board, but it is due to the annual reduction which the Board of Estimate regularly makes. There is only one of two things for this department to do, either reduce the salaries or stop erecting buildings, and it wisely adopts the latter course.

"It is impossible to say just how many children have been refused admission to our schools since the beginning of the year. In September there were 1,290 reported irom the Nineteenth Ward, 535 from the Twenty-second Ward; 409 from the Twelfth Ward; the whole number reported being 2,962. The figures for October have not been sent to the Board yet, and so I have a delicacy about stating them. The crowding is in the fourth, fifth

to the Board yet, and so I have a delicacy about stating them. The crowding is in the fourth, fifth and sixth primary grades, principally in the sixth grade, and there may be vacant seats in the higher grades of the very schools reporting large numbers of children refused admission, because they were fitted only for certain grades. The teachers wisely advance the most capable pupils as fast as they can, and thus they relieve the lower classes somewhat. In my report for September the average attendance was 129,562. That did not include the corporate schools, nor the evening schools, nor the girls at the Normal College. The corresponding figures last year were 122,374.

"The chief cause of the sanitary defects in our school buildings I think is due to the economy practised by the Board in purchasing sites. It buys four lots in the middle of a block, instead of or a corner and its building covers all the ground. In a short time high buildings are erected on three sides of the school, the light is impaired, the ventilation is destroyed and then the trouble begins. If the school must be in the middle of a block the Boarshould own enough land to have plenty of space around the building. Look at our school in Lexington-ave, between One-hundred-and-fourth and One-hundred-and-fifth sts. There is 200 feet front. At that school in October there were 2,190 children in the primary department and 779 in the grammar department. There is plenty of air and good ventilation in that school.

"Would I advise the closing of any schools now in use? I have strongly advised that several departments should be consolidated, but do not think that

welld radyise the closing of any several departments should be consolidated, but do not think that any building could be closed now. They need to be kept open for the sake of the small children. But the Board cannot transfer a teacher or principal without the concurrence of the local board of without the concurrence of the local board of trustees, and for obvious reasons that concurrence it is hard to obtain. In the Fourteenth Ward there were 1,893 scholars in September, seven principals and forty-three teachers; one of the departments had 114 boys in attendance, and another 186 boys—they ought to be consolidated; and the same is true of two female departments, one having 142 and the other 186 scholars. It is not merely the saving of the principles' and teachers' salaries that would be gained, but the children would much better educated if such a change could be made. That ward is only one of several where similar changes should be made. should be made.

WORK OF ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENTS. The City Superintendent and his seven assistants receive altogether in salaries \$34,050. In conversation with one of the assistant superintendents yesterday the reporter was told the duties of these se en employes. "Two of us," he said, "Calkins and Jones, are assigned to examine the classes in primary schools, Harrison and Fanning have grammar schools, Godwin and McMullin are assigned to both grammar and primary schools, because the two regular men cannot complete the examinations in a year, and the law requires every class to be examined by us once a year. Mr. Hoffman is an examiner in French, German, music, and some of the special studies in the grammar schools. The city is not divided into districts, but every week Mr. Jasper assigns us to certain schools that he wants examined. Two of us go to a school together partment. In a few of the rooms, however, the windows were nearly closed and the air was decidedly impleasant.

Referring to the salary question Mr. White complained of the injustice of the system which gave the principal of a grammar school having 501 scholars a salary of \$3.000 and not a dollar more if the number of pupils should be doubled.

There are twenty classes in the primary department, which occupies the lower floors, but there are only fifteen classes rooms and five of the classes were in the main room, being separated by screens. There were 842 boys and 532 girls in attendance, and Miss Galligan, the principal, said that she had turned away 562 children since the opening of the school in September, because her classes were already too large. There were a few scholars only five years old. The little children sut in the classrooms as near together as possible, some of the rooms containing seventy-seven scholars.

"What was the cause of the complaint to the Board of Health from this school f" asked the reand examine every class in that school

## SOME OF THE SALARIES.

As the high salaries paid some persons out of the ommon school fund have been so much talked of, a TRIBUNE reporter recently got at the exact facts. The salaries in the College of the City of New-York are paid out of a special appropriation from the city reasury. President Webb, of that college, receives \$7,500 and last year the salary of President Hunter, of the Normal College, was raised from s6.600 to \$7,500.

The professers in the City College receive \$4,500 ach, and one of the resolutions defeated on Wednesday provided for equal salaries for the six professors in the Normal College, who now get \$4,000 each. John Jasper, the superintendent of schools, now receives \$6,500. Commissioner Welch last month offered a resolution to raise this to \$7,500. Commissioner Wetmore had just offered a resolution calling for the election of a city superintendent. Mr. Jasper's term having expired. Both resolutions were tabled on a motion of Mr. Devoe, and no further action has been taken. Mr. Jasper is holding over, it being a provision of the State law that the salary of the City Superintendent and his assist-

salary of the City Superintendent and his assistants cannot be changed during their terms of office, and if he is re-elected before his salary is increased it cannot be raised for two years.

Mr. Jasper has seven assistant superintendents, two of whom, T. F. Harrison and N. A. Calkins, receive \$4.275 each; the others, John H. Fanning, William Jones, A. McMullin, J. Godwin, and Paul Hoffman, receive \$3.800 each, Lawrence D. Kiernan, as secretary of the Board of Trustees of the College of the City of New-York, is paid \$500 for his labors, and as clerk of the Board of Education, receives \$6,000. John Davenport, and/for if the department, is paid \$5,500 and receives \$450 additional for auditing the accounts of the City College. D. I. Stagg, superintendent of school buildings, has a salary of \$3,618, and J. Dunham, the engineer, is given \$2,412.

the engineer, is given \$2.412.

Robert Stricker, the dranghtsman, receives \$1,800; William G. Ackerman, the inspector of fuel, \$1,737; Charles Buscall, the foreman of the workshop, \$1,500, and Edward Higgins, the janitor, \$1,351. The twelve agents of the truancy department, receive \$1,000 each. There are ten assistant clerks receiving salaries from \$600 to \$2,000 each. John R. Amea being paid the latter sum. W. O. Bourne is paid \$1,930; E. E. Van Sann, \$1,887; J. Mosher, \$1,737; H. M. Duryea, \$1,471; B. H. Oakey, \$1,447; H. L. Davenport, \$1,234; H. D. Lichtenhein, \$1,158; Henry F. Kiddle, \$800; and Mrs. Eliza Cronk, \$600.

The salaries paid to principals and teachers in the schools vary according to the attendance of the previous year, the length of service, etc. A male principal receives from \$2,250 to \$3,600, depending on the average attendance; a female principal of a grammar school is paid from \$1,200 to \$1,900, the salary of a primary school principal being \$200 less; these salaries also depend on the average attendance until the woman has been a principal for fourteen years, when she may, by a vote of the Board of Education, be given the maximum salary egineer, is given \$2,412. ort Stricker, the draughtsman, receives \$1,800;

less; these salaries also depend on the average attendance until the woman has been a principal for fourteen years, when she may, by a vote of the Board of Education, be given the maximum salary \$1,750 or \$1,900, regardless of the number of pupils in her school. When a girlig appointed a teacher she receives \$400, the first year, to which \$50 or \$100 is added after that time. The average salary of a primary school teacher is \$600, women only being allowed to teach in the primary schools and the girls grammar schools. In the latter the average salary is \$725. In the male grammar schools the average salary of a female teacher is \$500, and of male teachers \$1,500. When a man is first appointed a teacher he receives \$700, and the second year he usually receives \$1,200. Special teachers in German and music receive \$1.50 an hour, and in drawing \$2 an hour. The principals of the evening schools are paid \$4 a night, the men teachers \$2.50, and the women teachers \$2. Janitors receive from \$500 to \$1,500 a year, their pay being graded according to the size of their school buildings, the number of stoves in them, etc.

A Sunday-school teacher being anxious to A Sunday-school teacher being abxious to test the mental powers of his not over-intelligent pupils, asked them to tell him their idea of to-morrow after giving the subject a week's thought. On the following sunday he put the question to one of the scholars, who promptly replied, "To-morrow was cast into the oyen." Which was certainly according to Scripture.— (Harpers Bazar.

"THE LADIES' PARADISE."

SHOPPING IN PARIS.

SOME REALISTIC PHASES OF SHOPS AND FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.

Zola's "Au Bonheur des Dames" is a study of

one of the most important and interesting features in Paris, the great shops, such as Au bon Marché, which notably furnished the model. The mise en vente, occasion and coupons are household words in Paris, and if the f-minine mania for shopping can be traced to its first cause, these terms would be held mostly responsible. The mise en rente is a day of special sale. The great shop is adorned like a bride for her husband. Every art which can catch and delude the eye is brought to bear. It is a day either of occasions or of coupons. The occasion is the special sale of goods marked down for that day only. The coupons are remnants exposed for sale, and it follows, at reduced prices. As some one has said, the love of getting things cheap is the last infirmity of noble minds; for lesser minds it is the first, most lasting and most ungoverned. Cooler-headed fathers and husbands might not find these things really cheap. An occasion is actually a reduction in price, but the occasion is only a balt that lures on to other purchases. The coupon almost always means the buying of a certain quantity for which one has no need. The secret of these great shops is not to sell what one wants, but to sell that which one does not want. The ways in which this is accomplished are legion. One of these is to change the positions of the different departments. An habitué of the shop wanting a certain article is accustomed to find it on the left-hand side of the entrauce. She walks directly toward it to find there something entirely different. On inquiry she is obliged to traverse the entire shop to the right-hand side of the entrance on the opposite street. On her way her attention is distracted by a hundred different articles, from neckties to mustard-pots, with prices ostentatiously displayed. If she does not buy one, two, three different things en roufe which have never before entered

her head, she is an exceptional Frenchwoman.

A friend says to me: "When I go to the Bon Marché I cave my purse at home." But even that contingent is rovided against. Any purchase can be bought and paid or on delivery. More, any purchase bought can be re-turned and the money refunded. No time is specified, and I have known a pair of portières to be bought and used for six months, when the capricious taste of the owner declined to admire them longer, and they were returned and the money given back. As a matter of personal experience I never went to either Au Bon Marche or the Magazin du Louvre without buying something that I never thought of buying when I entered, and I fancy there are few people who can say otherwise.

On the great occasions of the mise en cente the campaign is elaborately planned. On the sidewalk are ounters filled with cheaper goods, or goods out of fashjou, where voluble salesmen entreat and beguile the white-capped bonnes and housewives. Against the wide entrance are trays filled with neckties, small shawls, cheap lace made up in various confections, with prices marked. A long tray at the entrance is filled with colored ribbons. Behind it are stacks of piece goods, a table of silks or brocaded velvets, and still in line readymade dress skirts, cotton, silk and velvet, for no class is neglected. In every available part of the store are similar tables, on each of which is supposed to be some bargain which cannot be found in the regular department In the morning everything is in order, each clerk at his post. Through the day the crowd gathers. Between 3 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon the alsles 'are packed with women of every class and condition. And the spirit is pour them. There are few such scenes out of Bediam. The muscles of fine ladies are as good for a spurt as those f the white caps, andthey fight their way manfully, one and all. Mantles are torn off, dress skirts are pulled off their hooks, a handkerchief dropped is a dirty rag, a parasol let fall is riddled. Around each tray of coupons r occasions is a solid phalanx of women stirring them up with both hands, grasping and grabbing. Salesmen and women hover on the outskirts putting in judicious words, although speech, now that the fury is on, is of less

mement. The air has become hot and stifting, the aisles assable except to the shoppers, who, like the insane, have been given unusual strength. Each tray of lace is urrounded by women two rows deep. Those inside are rooting through the tray with both hands, those outside have each thrust one hand between the women of the inner line, and grasp first at one and then another article as they come within reach. There is a wild glitter in their fixed eyes. They breathe heavily. ently oblivious of the other. Satiated or weary, they enve the Spanish lace and pass on to another tray, elbow and push to secure a position, and toss, dig and root, the chemille capes. Their places have been immediately chemilic capes. Their places have been immediately filled with the unsatisfied occupants of the outer row. The Spanish lace fichus might be so many razs, the chemilic capes are in wild disorder, the remnants of lace are unplaned, their marks gone, and the tray is in a state of chaos. All through the shop similar scenes are repeated. The craze takes two forms. Some women are paralyzed. They go through the entire shop, rooting among laces and ribbous in a sort of fury, and buy nothing. The more dangerous form is that of buying—and the more common. It is the form to which American women are most susceptible. There was a pittful instance of this in a school-teacher who by strict economy had been making the tour during her vacation. Fortunately she add not came to Paris until about to return home. \*\*\* is he Louvre she became entrapped in the shop. Invariobly, when she finally reached the gallery, if was within
aif an hour of closing-time. "I can't get any further
han the Grand Galerie," she confessed. "Can't you tell
ne of some other door, so I can reach the Salon Carre! I
laren't go home without seeing that big Murfilo, the
dona Lisa and The Marriage in Cana. "The young
woman knew what she was after, but was entangled in
her femininity. In an evil hour she went to the Ben
diarche on a day of coupon. But she shall tell her own
dory: "I don't know how it happened. It was like a
reast suction-pipe, and I got drawn in. I went in to buy
to package of sheestrings. I'm always out of them. I
or in, and I didu't go out until after 6, and then a saleshare remanns of black silk and two pieces of brocaded
advet, two pairs of Lishe thread stockings and two pairs
of silk stockings, a cashmere skirt ready-made, and one
of silk and velvet, a brass plaque, three embroidered
amalicrchiefs, a parasol with lace around it, a dozen
ards of ruching, nine pairs of gloves—only one with
ighteen buttons, the others only cost a frame and a half
a pair—a Spanish lace fichu, two ostrich feathers, five
ards of jet passementeric, some colored ribbons, a box
of assorted harpins, an alligator card-case, a box of
abin soap, and some sachets, a thread lace handkerehiet
and a fur cellar. I think that's all. I spent 873. They
old me I could return them if I didn't want them. I foroil I was going to London on the early morning train.
But of a thousand times," the poor thing shrieked.

board here and set to Liverpool I".

Do you want the things I" by you want the things I".

No no! a thousand times," the poor thing shricked.

What did you get them for I".

Somehow I thought it was my duty. They were so eap." It is a young woman who always likes to put acts on a high moral basis. In a house full of women rists with still a few dollars left, it was not difficult to pose of the purchases. She herself was sent off to corrow and home a wiser woman.

ose of the purchases. She herself was sent off to spool and home a wiser woman.

all this, the method of selfling contributes. To an orient the pertinacity of the French clerk, his persist-politieness so leng as he believes you a possible purser, is a source of wonder, accustomed as she is to the parative indifference in salesment and saleswomen.

The Fruch clerk sees you through your purses. He as ampanies you to the caises when you to your payment. He wraps up your parced, and by time you part like old friends and with many dealers.

## THE PERSIMMON OF TENNESSEE.

A COUNTRYMAN'S ATTACK ON THE GREEN FRUIT-THE RESULTS OF CULTIVATION.

"What's them things, mister?" asked a contryman of a Fulton Market fruit dealer, pointing to a seculiar looking fruit about two inches in diameter, of a erra-cotta color, closely resembling an apple in shape and having a needle-like point at one end and something like an acorn cup at the other. There was a malicious twinkle in the dealer's eye as he said:

"Wby, these are the celebrated Tennessee persimmons! Haven't you ever tasted them I Try one."

It was not mellow, but it looked tempting, and the ountryman's teeth soon met beyond a piece the size of a diver dollar. The one piece satisfied him, evidently, for all the astringent qualities of a green persimmon began to take immediate effect upon his tongue, his teeth and his lips. His mouth was growing smaller by degrees, he could not laugh with grace, he could not be angry, he could not articulate; yet all the time he had the mortification of seeing the dealer and his neighbors well-nigh convulsed with laughter. With a smothered oath he went

out, and, mounting his wagon, drove away.

"These persimmons," said the dealer, "came from a farmer near Nashville, Tennessee, who makes a specialty of growing them. He finds it a profitable business and has brought the heretofore almost worthless fruit to a high state of perfection. These specimens are green, of course, and were sent to me for comparison with the

high state of perfection. These specimens are greated course, and were sent to me for comparison with the Japanese persimmon. I find them larger, but) cannot judge of their flavor till they are ripe, which they are not fill bitten by the frost. Frost nellows them and removes all their astringency, makes them as sweet as sugar and of a delicious flavor.

"The persimmon, indigenous to the South, grows upon small trees seldom exceeding fifty feet in height, and in a wild state the fruit is small and unattractive, though extremely sweet after frost. Children are fond of the persimmon, but they are most popular with the 'possum, who walks forth nightly to regale himself and become a victim of the boys and dogs who know just where to find him. A persimmon tree is a 'possum's Delmonico. Some people have experimented with persimmons in various ways, and I have known them to be dried and presset, in which condition they cat as well as the dates of Arabia. The farmer from whom these came has realized as much as \$10 a bushel for his cultivated variety, and, I understand, he has devoted a goodly portion of his land to a persimmon orchard with the intention of showing the American people just what can be done with a product which grows in every old field in the Southern and Central States, and has herefore been looked upon as little less than a nuisance."